

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/730,548

Examiner

Alonzo Chambliss

Applicant(s)

WOOD ET AL.

Art Unit

2814

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 12/8/03.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 52-70.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 08 December 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 12/8/03
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. The amendment filed on 12/8/03 has been fully considered and made of record in the instant application.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
3. The application has been amended as follow:

IN SPECIFICATION:

Please add a new section directly before the BACKGROUND on page 1 as follows'. CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION This application is a divisional application of U.S. Patent Application No. 10/230,653, entitled "PROBE CARD, E.G., FOR TESTING MICROELECTRONIC COMPONENTS, AND METHODS FOR MAKING SAME", filed August 29, 2002, now U.S. Patent No. 6,773,938, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

On page 2, paragraph 7, delete " 4-16 " and insert instead -- 4-9, 10A and 10B, 11A and 11B, and 12-16;

On page 13, paragraph 40, after " member 320 " insert -- (step 160) --;

On page 15, paragraph 44, after " Figure 1 " insert -- to test the microelectronic component 50 (step 170) --.

4. The title of the invention is changed to the following: " PROBE CAR FOR TESTING MICROELECTRONIC COMPONENTS ". Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of name of the title."

Allowable Subject Matter

5. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowance subject matter: the prior art of record does not teach or suggest the combination of a substrate with a plurality of openings extending from the front face to the back face in an array. An array of electrically isolated conductors patterned from an integral metal layer, each conductor has a contact end adjacent the front surface of the substrate, an intermediate length received in one of the opening in the substrate, and an exposed length extending outwardly beyond the back surface of the substrate a distance of no more than 200 microns. A backing member joined to the substrate, wherein the substrate has a confronting surface with a plurality of contacts so that each contact is electrically coupled to the contact end of one of the conductors in claims 52 and 63.

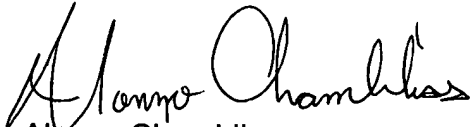
The prior art made of record and not relied upon is cited primarily to show the product of the instant invention.

Any inquiry concerning the communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alonzo Chambliss whose telephone number is (571) 272-1927.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-7956.

AC/August 30, 2004


Alonzo Chambliss
Primary Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2827